VOL. VIII. NUMB. 603.

The SPECTATOR.

- - - - - Facit hoc illos Hyacinthos. Juv.

MONDAY, *October* 4. 1714.

THE following Letter comes from a Gentleman, who, I find, is very diligent in making his Observations, which I think too material not to be communicated to the Publick.

SIR,

'IN order to execute the Office of Love-Casuist to *Great Britain*, with which I take my self to be invested by your Paper of *September* 8. I shall make some further Observations upon the two Sexes in general, beginning with that which always ought to have the upper Hand. After having observed with much Curiosity the Accomplishments which are apt to captivate female Hearts, I find that there is no Person so irresistable as one who is a Man of Importance, provided it be in Matters of no Consequence. One who makes himself talked of, tho' it be for the particular Cock of his Hat, or for prating aloud in the Boxes at a Play, is in a fair way of being a Favourite. I have known a young Fellow make his Fortune by knocking down a Constable; and may venture to say, tho' it may seem a Paradox, that many a Fair One has died by a Duel in which both the Combatants have survived.

'About three Winters ago I took Notice of a young Lady at the Theatre, who conceived a Passion for a notorious Rake that headed a Party of Cat-calls; and am credibly informed, that the Emperor of the Mohocks married a rich Widow within three Weeks after having rendered himself formidable in the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*. Scowring and breaking Windows have done frequent Execution upon the Sex; but there is no Sett of these Male Charmers who make their way more successfully, than those who have gained themselves a Name for Intrigue, and have ruined the greatest Number of Reputations. There is a strange Curiosity in the female World to be acquainted with the dear Man who has been loved by others, and to know what it is that makes him so agreeable. His Reputation does more than half his Business. Every one that is ambitious of being a Woman of Fashion, looks out for Opportunities of being in his Company; so that, to use the old Proverb, When his Name is up he may lie a Bed.

(Price Two-Pence.)

'I was

'I was very sensible of the great Advantage of being a Man of Importance upon these Occasions 'on the Day of the King's Entry, when I was 'seated in a Balcony behind a Cluster of very 'pretty Country Ladies, who had one of these 'showy Gentlemen in the Midst of them. The 'first Trick I caught him at, was bowing to 'several Persons of Quality whom he did not 'know; nay, he had the Impudence to nod at a 'blue Garter who had a finer Equipage than ordi-'nary, and seemed a little concerned at the imper-'tinent Huzzas of the Mob, that hindered his 'Friend from taking Notice of him. There was in-'deed one who pull'd off his Hat to him, and upon 'the Ladies asking who it was, he told them, it was 'a Foreign Minister that he had been very merry 'with the Night before; whereas in Truth, it 'was the City Common-Hunt.

'He was never at a Loss when he was asked any 'Person's Name, tho' he seldom knew any one 'under a Peer. He found Dukes and Earls among 'the Aldermen, very good-natured Fellows a-'mong the Privy Counsellors, with two or three 'agreeable old Rakes among the Bishops and 'Judges.

'In short, I collected from his whole Discourse, 'that he was acquainted with every Body, and 'knew no Body. At the same Time, I am mista-'ken if he did not that Day make more Advances 'in the Affections of his Mistress, who sat near 'him, than he could have done in half a Year's 'Courtship.

'*Ovid* has finely touched this Method of making 'Love, which I shall here give my Reader in 'Mr. Dryden's Translation.

Page the Eleventh.

Thus Love in Theatres did first improve,
And Theatres are still the Schools of Love:
Nor fear the Charioteer, and his Encounter;
The Caution is to common Profit;
Her Hand is there to nothing but the Fan,
Nor Feet, nor Signs, which Lovers understand;
But boldly next the Fair your Seat provide,
Close as you can to hers, and Side by Side:
Pleas'd or unpleas'd, no Matter; crowding sit;
For so the Laws of publick Shows permit.
Then find Occasion to begin Discourse,
Enquire whose Chariot this, and whose that Horse;
To which soever Side she is inclin'd,
Suit all your Inclinations to her Mind;
Like what she likes, from thence your Court begin,
And whom she favours, wish that he may win.

Again, Page the Sixteenth.

O when will come the Day, by Heaven design'd,
When thou, the best and fairest of Mankind,
Drawn by white Horses, shalt in Triumph ride,
With conquer'd Slaves attending on thy Side;
Slaves, that no longer can be safe in Flight;
O glorious Object! O surprizing Sight!
O Day of Publick Joy, too good to end in Night!
On such a Day, if thou, and next to thee
Some Beauty sits, the Spectacle to see;
If she enquire the Names of conquer'd Kings,
Of Mountains, Rivers, and their hidden Springs;
Answer to all thou knowest; and, if Need be,
Of Things unknown seem to speak knowingly:
This is Euphrates, crown'd with Reeds; and there
Flows the swift Tigris, with his Sea-green Hair.
Invent new Names of Things unknown before;
Call this Armenia; *that, the* Caspian *Shore:*
Call this a Mede, *and that a* Parthian *Youth;*
Talk probably; no Matter for the Truth.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Robert Norris at the Pestle and Mortar on Ludgate-Hill, having been many Years subservient to the Cure of Lunaticks, is removed to the Public and Magnificent House, the Middle of Moorfields, where he hath a very convenient Room for Patients and Garden, airy, and fit to receive Persons of the best Rank of either Sex, with suitable Attendance. Any Persons applying themselves as above, may there be satisfied, that the Cure shall be indefatigably endeavoured (and by God's Blessing effected) on reasonable Terms. And likewise their Incomplete Lunacies.

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